

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 106^{tb} congress, second session

Vol. 146

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2000

No. 101

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2000, at 2 p.m.

Senate

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2000

The Senate met at 12:02 p.m. and was called to order by the President protempore [Mr. Thurmond].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Lord of all life, we praise You that there is no division between the sacred and the secular. You have created all things to praise You and our work to glorify You. Forgive us when we forget that what is said and done here in this Chamber is as sacred as what is done in a sanctuary of a synagogue or in a church. Whatever belongs to You is sacred. This Nation, this Senate, the women and men who serve as Senators, and all of us who work with them and for them belong first and foremost to You. You are our Judge. We are accountable to You. Forgive us when we trade political greatness for petulant gamesmanship, when words are used to criticize others rather than communicate truth about issues, when party spirit is more important than being party to Your Spirit, when winning the election in November becomes more crucial than nonpartisan winning of what's best for our Nation in the votes to be cast in the Senate. Bless the Senators in this busy season. Fill this Chamber with Your sovereign presence, the Senators' minds with Your wisdom, and their hearts with concern for each other. May debate greater expose truth and votes coincide with both conscience and conviction. This is the day You have made; we will rejoice and glorify You in it. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MIKE ENZI, a Senator from the State of Wyoming, led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENZI). The Chair recognizes the majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. I thank the Chair.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, first, I would like to welcome all of my colleagues and our staff back from the August period when we had time to be with our families and our friends and our constituents. We are inspired by the Chaplain's prayer and ready, I am sure, for a lot of good work. As I have visited with some of my colleagues already. I see that they look mighty rested and ready for a busy legislative period, and I think they are probably going to need to be. We still have to complete action on five appropriations measures, as well as conference reports as they become available.

In addition, there are a number of other legislative matters we hope to finish as we move toward the adjournment period of the Congress. We have some bills we hope to take up freestanding in the Senate, and, of course, we have some conference reports other

than appropriations bills on which we will be working. So we have a lot of work we are going to need to consider.

Today, the Senate will have a period of morning business prior to the 12:30 p.m. recess for weekly party conferences and meetings. When the Senate reconvenes at 2:15 p.m., it will begin postcloture debate on the motion to proceed to the China PNTR legislation. Those Senators who wish to make statements are encouraged to notify the bill managers. Hopefully, a lot of Senators who wish to speak on the China trade issue will take advantage of the time today, and we will go to as late as possibly 6 p.m., although we may be prepared to go a little bit earlier than that if our colleagues have made their statements and we can get agreement to do that. But at least at 6 p.m. the Senate will begin consideration of the energy and water appropriations bill with amendments in

As a reminder, we will be considering these two bills on a dual track throughout the week with the motion to proceed to the China trade bill being considered during the day and the appropriations bill or bills being considered at night. So votes could still occur if we move toward the time when we could need to have a vote today, but certainly during the day on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and possibly Friday morning we will be having votes on the appropriations amendments that are offered at night or on China PNTR when amendments become available.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

